

they reach age 26. Men who fail to register before their 26th birthday permanently forfeit their eligibility for any federal and state benefits or employment linked to registration. To ensure the highest degree of fairness to all young men, Selective Service established a program which helped achieve maximum compliance with the military Selective Service Act, the law requiring Selective Service registration. This computer based program attempts to identify those who are required to register but have not yet done so and remind him by letter of their obligation. Potential registrants are identified from lists provided by various agencies. Drivers license records provide the foundation for this program. They are the source of almost 90 percent of the records currently on the compliance file. In fact, Nebraska is only one of two states that do not provide Select Service for drivers license records. Some of you were concerned that many of these records were unneeded by the federal government and supported Senator Chambers' amendment to limit the bill to males between 17 and 26. When this amendment was brought up I was unsure what this would impose on the Selective Service System. After researching and looking at the problem I found that I can now support leaving Senator Chambers' amendments in the bill. Unfortunately, Senator Higgins also amended this bill so as to force the federal government to pay fees in addition to the cost of obtaining drivers license record. Now this amendment would simply restore the original intent of the bill by requiring the federal government to pay only the cost and not the fees. During our last debate, many of you raised valid arguments as to why we should require the federal government to pay the fees. Now, I found myself in the position of agreeing with most of the arguments that were made. I would be the first to agree that we need to get the federal government off our backs and decrease the amount of idiotic regulations that are forced down our throats. Now, unfortunately, though, the fact remains that we cannot force the federal government to do anything. If this bill passes in its present form, the federal government will not pay these fees. Why should they when none of the other states do? We will be the only state that would do it and they would walk away from it. Some of you feel that we should not adopt this amendment anyway, that this would be a way to get back at the federal government. Well, unfortunately, if this amendment is not adopted, you will not hurt the federal government. They will simply, like I said a little bit ago, walk away from the program in Nebraska. You will most certainly not be hurting me if you fail to pass this amendment. I am already too old to register and then who will you be hurting is the young men who live in